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From a "one man show" to a 2nd generation family and friend run business with over 147 combined years of rental industry experience...

We opened our first rental store as a Taylor Rental on October 1, 1971. In the beginning it was just our Father, with his two young sons helping out after school and on Saturdays. We quickly outgrew our first store which was located on the Sudbury - Wayland line in a small 2,500 square foot space at 82 Boston Post Road, Sudbury. Seeing the need to expand, and having a growing family with several kids interested in the business, we purchased a property at our current location of 712 Boston Post Road in March of 1973. The property on the lot was demolished and a new 3,200 square foot building was constructed. As the business grew, we added an adjacent garage in 1979, bringing our total space to over 11,000 square feet. This building had a ground level, a full basement, and room to add a 3rd level in the future. Finally, in the summer of 1984, we added the 3rd floor giving us an additional 3,200 square feet. This floor houses our office and a party supply cleaning and storage facility.

In October of 1983, the family run Taylor Rental Corporation was sold to the Stanley Works Corporation. By November, our Father decided it was time to leave the Taylor franchise and we became an independent rental store, going by the name Sudbury Rental Center.

At about the same time as this change was occurring, there were also major changes in the field of rental store computerization. Several members of the Taylor Rental computer department also decided it was time to leave Taylor, and formed a company called Solutions By Computer in Springfield, Massachusetts. Sudbury Rental became their first customer and as a test station, helped develop Solutions By Computer software into a worldwide rental store computerization leader which today has over 1,700 customers.

Eventually Stanley Works decided to get out of the rental business and sold Taylor Rental to the ServiStar Corporation. In July of 1997, the True Value family of retailers merged with the ServiStar Coast to Coast

retailers to create a cooperative with over 10,500 family Members worldwide. The combined size and buying power of this organization called TruServ allowed its members to realize tremendous cost savings. Realizing the potential savings we joined the new Taylor Rental family of over 660 stores in 1996.

December 1996 saw the retirement of our Father after 25+ years in the rental industry and an additional 20+ years in the hardware business. Since his retirement, his son Richard took over management of the business. Together with his brothers Paul, John, sister Lisa and a dedicated staff of friends, we continue to provide a high level of customer service and quality equipment to the people of this area.

American Rental Association

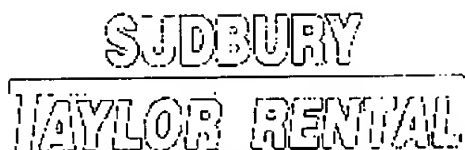
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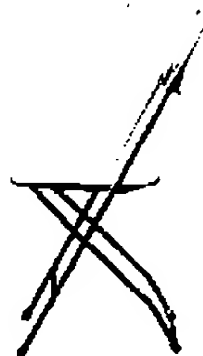
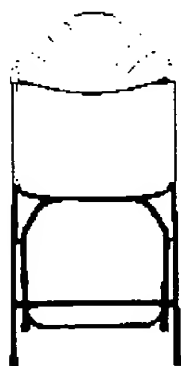
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Deep, Ventilated Back

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White Wooden Padded

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Children's, Blue (Non-folding) 1.30

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Title: **US5186281: Method for retail checkout**

Country: **US** United States of America

Inventor: **Jenkins, Alfred D.**; Cambridge, OH

Assignee: **NCR Corporation**, Dayton, OH
other patents from [NCR CORPORATION](#) (approx. 2,778)
[News, Profiles, Stocks and More about this company](#)

Published / Filed: **Feb. 16, 1993 / June 10, 1991**

Application Number: **US1991000712835**

IPC Code: **E04H 3/00**;

U.S. Class: **Current: 186/055; 235/383;**
Original: 186/055; 235/383;

Field of Search: **186/36,53,55,56 235/381,383,385**

Priority Number: **June 10, 1991 US1991000712835**

Abstract: A method and system for article selection and purchase in a retail establishment utilizes customer selection of articles from a plurality of display panels displaying samples of the articles. Information including customer identity, article selection and article quantity is provided to the system by entry devices on the display panels. A record of customer selections is generated at a precheck terminal using this information, which is also used to transport the selected articles from a product stocking area to an order accumulation area, where a record is made of the accumulated articles. The two records are compared at a finalizing terminal, where customer payment is received and the purchased articles are delivered to the customer.

Attorney, Agent or Firm: **Sessler, Jr., Albert L.** ;
Primary / Assistant Examiners: **Bartuska, F. J.**;

INPADOC [Show legal status actions](#)

Legal Status: **Family:** **None**

First Claim: [Show all 4 claims](#)

What is claimed is:

1. A method of selecting and checking out merchandise in a

retail establishment, said establishment including a system comprising a display area having individual display compartments for displaying actual samples of items to be sold, selection means employing vertical and horizontal values associated with rows and columns of said compartments in the display area for selecting items from the display area, ID means for identifying the customer selecting the items, quantity means for entering the quantity desired of each selected item, pre-check means for producing a record of the items and quantity of items selected, a product stocking area for storing the items to be sold, an item accumulating area, means for retrieving items ordered by the customer from the product stocking area and placing them in locations in the item accumulating area in accordance with the customer identification, and a checkout station for checking out the items accumulated, comprising the following steps:

- (a) providing identification to the system by a customer by applying a customer card to said ID means;
- (b) viewing the samples in the display area by the customer;
- (c) selecting the desired item by using said selection means to index values corresponding to those associated with said compartments;
- (d) selecting the quantity desired of said selected items by entering a numerical value into said quantity means;
- (e) repeating steps (c) and (d) if additional items are desired;
- (f) removing said customer card from said ID means;
- (g) performing a pre-check operation by or for the customer at the pre-check means;
- (h) receiving by the customer from the pre-check means of an itemized, totaled receipt for items purchased with identification number and account verification;
- (i) retrieving of selected items by the retrieving means from the product stocking area and assembling them in the item accumulating area;
- (j) checking out by or for the customer at said checkout station, and
- (k) receiving by the customer of the purchased items from the item accumulating area.

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









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Buy PDF	Patent	Pub.Date	Inventor	Assignee	Title
	US2679354*	1954-05	Skillman		
	US3023851*	1962-03	Stiller		

	US3532184	1970-10	Blake		SEMI-AUTOMATED STORE
	US3716697	1973-02	Weir	FMC Corporation	AUTOMATIC MARKETING SYSTEM
	US3741345	1973-06	Saridis		SEMI AUTOMATED RETAIL STORE
	US3746130	1973-07	Bullas		AUTOMATED STORE SYS
	US3824544	1974-07	Simjian		MERCHANDISING ARRANGEMENT UTILIZING CODED CHECK
	US3931497	1976-01	Gentile et al.	Docutel Corporation	Automated fuel dispenser
	US4073368	1978-02	Mustapick		Automated merchandising s
	US4199100	1980-04	Wostl et al.	Atlantic Richfield Company	Credit card automated syste vehicle service stations
	US4395627	1983-07	Barker et al.	Atlantic Richfield Company	Gasoline station system for enablement of selected pump credit card console located a pump island
	US4550246	1985-10	Markman		Inventory control and reporti system for drycleaning store
	US4569421	1986-02	Sandstedt		Restaurant or retail vending
	US4638312	1987-01	Quinn et al.	NCR Corporation	Order entry system including interactive menu display
	US4675515	1987-06	Lucero		Drive-through credit card pa device
	US4676343	1987-06	Humble et al.	CheckRobot Inc.	Self-service distribution syst
* some details unavailable					

Foreign
References:

None



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 EmailTitle: **US4676343: Self-service distribution system**Country: **US** United States of AmericaInventor: **Humble, David R.**; Deerfield Beach, FL
Gentzler, David L.; Boynton Beach, FL
Tilidetzke, Steven J.; Coconut Creek, FLAssignee: **CheckRobot Inc.**, Deerfield Beach, FL
other patents from **CHECKROBOT INC.** (approx. 9)
[News, Profiles, Stocks and More about this company](#)Published / Filed: **June 30, 1987 / July 9, 1984**Application Number: **US1984000628913**IPC Code: **G07C 11/00;**U.S. Class: **Current:** 186/061; 177/050; 235/383; 235/437; 340/572.1;
700/225; 902/022;
Original: 186/061; 177/050; 235/383; 235/437; 340/572; 364/478;Field of Search: **186/55,59,61,62,68,69 235/383,385,437,379,380,382**
340/825.31,825.35,551,552,572 198/504,505 364/478,403,567
177/150 209/534,925Priority Number: **July 9, 1984 US1984000628913**

Abstract: The check-out counters for use in a supermarket, or the like, are provided with a laser scanner for reading the UPC labels on the individual products presented to it by each customer. The counters are also provided with transport belts or conveyors controlled by a central processor which, in turn, is supplied with information from a weigh scale under the input conveyor and from optical curtain devices at strategic locations along the belts and in a bagging area. The outfeed conveyor operates through a tunnel such that a customer cannot reach a product being conveyed therethrough. An optical curtain disposed at the entry to the tunnel is broken by passage of an article into the tunnel and also by a customer reaching into the tunnel. Products are conveyed to the bagging area if (1) the actual weight of the product as determined by the scale corresponds to the anticipated weight obtained from a memory bank based upon the product UPC label identification and (2) none of various other events have occurred. A display screen prompts the customer with questions and instructions. Improper use of system causes interruption or reversal of conveyor operation with requirement that product be removed and re-scanned. When scanning is complete, customer activates an input signal and is furnished with a printed itemized list which is taken

CL
186
235
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AL 3653 PK5
2876 CP4
2816 CP4
2635 PK2
2632 PK1
3FL PK2
2FL

along with subsequently bagged products to a cashier for payment and issuance of a final receipt. An article surveillance system may be included to detect any tagged products transported along the pedestrian path rather than around the path through the tunnel.

⚙ Attorney, Agent
or Firm:

Robin, Blecker & Daley ;

⚙ Primary /
Assistant

Rolla, Joseph J.; Shaver, Kevin P.

Examiners:

⚙ INPADOC

[Show legal status actions](#)

Legal Status:

⚙ Family:

[Show 26 known family members](#)

⚙ First Claim:

[Show all 32 claims](#)

What is claimed is:

1. A system for processing an article selected for purchase comprising:

- (a) conveyor means for receipt and transport of such article;
- (b) means providing a security zone extending along at least a portion of said conveyor means;
- (c) sensing means at an inlet to said security zone, said sensing means comprising a first article characteristic sensing means and a second article presence sensing means, said first sensing means being positioned upstream of said second article sensing means with respect to the conveyor means, said sensing means generating output signals, each indicative of an entry through said inlet into said security zone; and
- (d) control means for selective movement of said conveyor means in article acceptance and article rejection senses, said control means being operable for continuance of movement of said conveyor means in article acceptance sense upon occurrence of a first sensing means output signal and for moving said conveyor means in article rejection sense in response to occurrence of another of said first sensing means output signals.

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⚙ U.S. References:

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Buy PDF	Patent	Pub.Date	Inventor	Assignee	Title
	US2746679*	1956-05	Stratton et al.		
	US2919851*	1960-01	Otis		

	US3111576*	1963-11	Lipschutz		
	US3436968	1969-04	Unger et al.		PROCESSING CO SYSTEM
	US3538311	1970-11	Weidmann		METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATIC ACCOUNTING OF PURCHASED ITEM
	US3541309	1970-11	Cutter		MERCHANDISING SYSTEM
	US3589514	1971-06	Townsend		BILL-VALIDATING APPARATUS
	US3681570	1972-08	Abt	Zellweger Ltd.	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IDENTIFYING ART
	US3681571	1972-08	Strohschneider	Zellweger Ltd.	SYSTEM FOR IDENTIFYING ART
	US3690411	1972-09	Potrafke		DEVICE FOR SEL SERVICE STORES
	US3749191	1973-07	Ashen et al.		APPARATUS AND METHOD TO FACI SHOPPING
	US3818191	1974-06	Fennema et al.	Stanford Research Institute	AUTOMATIC NON CONTACT RECOG OF CODED INSIG
	US3819012	1974-06	Beck, Jr. et al.	RCA Corporation	MERCHANDISE HANDLING AND IDENTIFYING SYS
	US3836755	1974-09	Ehrat	Gretag Aktiengesellschaft	SELF-SERVICE SH
	US3990540	1976-11	Aleshire et al.	NCR Corporation	Checkout system
	US4071740	1978-01	Gogulski		Mobile automated shopping system
	US4108363	1978-08	Susumu		Record controlled mechanical store
	US4141078	1979-02	Bridges, Jr. et al.	Innovated Systems, Inc.	Library circulation c system
	US4392553	1983-07	Foster	Almor Corporation	Two hand scanning out counter
	US4394645	1983-07	Humble et al.	Sensormatic Electronics Corporation	Electrical surveillan apparatus with mov antenna elements
	US4482058	1984-11	Steiner	Rowe International, Inc.	Control circuit for b coin changer
	US4540106	1985-09	Fukatsu	Toshiba Corporation	Bag processing uni automatic transacti machine
	US4583083	1986-04	Bogasky		Checkout station to retail theft

* some details unavailable

Foreign: None
References:
Other Abstract: DERABS G85-289850
Info:



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This patent was reissued on Sep. 12, 1989 as patent [USRE33054](#)

Title: **US4550246: Inventory control and reporting system for drycleaning**
 Country: **US** United States of America
 Inventor: **Markman, Herbert**; Wynnewood, PA 19096
 Assignee: **None**
 Published / Filed: **Oct. 29, 1985 / April 13, 1984**
 Application Number: **US1984000599948**
 IPC Code: **G06R 15/24;**
 U.S. Class: **Current: [235/385](#); [235/383](#); [235/487](#);**
Original: [235/385](#); [235/383](#); [235/487](#);
 Field of Search: **235/385,375,383,487**
 Priority Number: **April 13, 1984 US1984000599948**
 Abstract: **An inventory control and reporting system especially for retail drycleaners includes a data input keyboard having key blocks corresponding to information for identification and calculation of processing costs of laundry articles to be cleaned, a data processor adapted to calculate pricing information and to generate reports based upon such data input, the processor being connected to a printer and the processor and printer producing sequential multiple part bar code records and tags for attachment to the laundry articles in sequential transactions, and also as hard copies for the customer and for the establishment. The bar code portions of the records are generated by a dot matrix printer operating in a high resolution mode, the bar code portions being generated for a transaction contemporaneously with the transaction. The bar code tags are attached to articles of clothing and are used with scanning apparatus to facilitate generation of reports according to various management needs.**
 Attorney, Agent or Firm: **Steele, Gould & Fried ;**
 Primary / Assistant Examiners: **Pitts, Harold I.;**
 INPADOC: [Show legal status actions](#)
 Legal Status:



Family: [Show 2 known family members](#)

First Claim: [Show all 13 claims](#)

What is claimed is:

1. The inventory control and reporting system, comprising:

- a data input device for manual operation by an attendant, the input device having switch means operable to encode information relating to sequential transactions, each of the transactions having articles associated therewith, said information including transaction identity and descriptions of each of said articles associated with the transactions;
- a data processor including memory operable to record said information and means to maintain an inventory total, said data processor having means to associate sequential transactions with unique sequential indicia and to generate at least one report of said total and said transactions, the unique sequential indicia and the descriptions of articles in the sequential transactions being reconcilable against one another;
- a dot matrix printer operable under control of the data processor to generate a written record of the indicia associated with sequential transactions, the written record including optically-detectable bar codes having a series of contrasting spaced bands, the bar codes being printed only in coincidence with each said transaction and at least part of the written record bearing a portion to be attached to said articles; and,
- at least one optical scanner connected to the data processor and operable to detect said bar codes on all articles passing a predetermined station,
- whereby said system can detect and localize spurious additions to inventory as well as spurious deletions therefrom.



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	US3478316	1969-11	Block		INVENTORY CONT SYSTEM
	US4264396	1981-04	Stewart	Monarch Marking Systems, Inc.	Labelling machines

Foreign References: None



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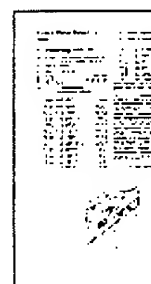
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 This patent was reissued on Mar. 14, 1995 as patent [USRE34872](#)

Title: **US4675515: Drive-through credit card payment device**
 Country: **US** United States of America
 Inventor: **Lucero, James L.**; So. Pasadena, CA 91030
 Assignee: **None**
 Published / Filed: **June 23, 1987 / March 4, 1986**
 Application Number: **US1986000836014**
 IPC Code: **G07F 7/08;**
 U.S. Class: **Current: 235/381; 186/041; 235/380;**
Original: 235/381; 235/380;
 Field of Search: **235/379,381**
 Priority Number: **March 4, 1986 US1986000836014**



Abstract: A system is set forth which is particularly adapted for use in drive-through, fast food establishments by which a patron make his/her own selections and pay for the order with a credit card. The system includes a panel having a plurality of touch responsive switches each or several corresponding to a particular item, e.g., food, to be selected. The system recognizes the patron's credit card and account and, thereafter, the patron enters his/her selections at the panel. The selections are reproduced at, for example, the main building for filling of the order and may also be displayed at the panel for verification of the selections by the patron. After the order is complete, a credit voucher and receipt are generated at the panel and are provided to the patron, and the account is debited in the amount of the order. The patron signs the voucher accepting the credit terms represented thereby and presents the signed voucher in exchange for the order.

Attorney, Agent or Firm: **Fitch, Even, Tabin & Flannery ;**
 Primary / Assistant Examiners: **Pitts, Harold;**
 INPADOC: [Show legal status actions](#)
 Legal Status: [Show 5 known family members](#)
 Family:

First Claim: [Show all 13 claims](#)


What is claimed is:























1. A system by which a patron may select and, via a credit instrument representing a patron credit account, pay for items selected from a population of items vended by an establishment, the system comprising:






- a panel disposed for operation by or for the patron, the panel including a plurality of touch responsive means adapted to generate signals corresponding to the selection of the desired item from the population;
- means for communicating said selection signals to a remote location at the establishment and repeating said selections for retrieval of said selections by establishment personnel;
- a processor storing patron account information;
- means at said panel communicating with the processor for recognizing said credit instrument and accessing the patron account represented thereby;
- means for processing said signals including means for totalizing the totalized charge therefor and means for debiting said patron account in the amount of said totalized charge; and
- means for generating a printed credit voucher and receipt including at least said totalized charge, said voucher further including a portion designated to receive the patron's signature acceptance of said charge on said account.

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Buy PDF	Patent	Pub.Date	Inventor	Assignee	Title
	US3237198*	1966-02	Slutsky		
	US3304416*	1967-02	Wolf		
	US3445633	1969-05	Ratner		AUTOMATIC TICKETING SYSTEM
	US3611293	1971-10	Constable	Smiths Industries Limited	ACCESS-CONTROL EQUIPMENT AND ITEM-DISPENSING SYSTEMS INCLUDING SUCH EQUIPMENT
	US3622995	1971-11	Dilks	Burroughs Corporation	AUTOMATIC TICKET/CREDIT CARD CHECK-IN SYSTEM
	US3673571	1972-06	Constable	Smith Industries	CREDIT-AND ACCESS-

				Limited	CONTROL EQUIPMENT
	<u>US3697693</u>	1972-10	Deschenes et al.	Data Card Corporation	SYSTEM FOR MAINTAINING THE STATUS OF CREDIT ACCOUNTS
	<u>US3761682</u>	1983-09	Barnes et al.	Docutel Corporation	CREDIT CARD AUTOMATIC CURRENCY DISPENSER
	<u>US3761683</u>	1973-09	Rogers		SECURITY SYSTEM
	<u>US3786421</u>	1974-01	Wostl et al.	Atlantic Richfield Company	AUTOMATED DISPENSING SYSTEM
	<u>US3826344</u>	1974-02	Wahlberg		APPARATUS FOR TRANSACTING BUSINESS
	<u>US3845277</u>	1974-10	Voss et al.	The Mosler Safe Company	OFF-LINE CASH DISPENSING AND BANKING SYSTEM
	<u>US3857018</u>	1974-12	Stark et al.	Business Electronics, Inc.	CONTROLLED ACCESS SYSTEMS
	<u>US3892948</u>	1975-07	Constable	Smiths Industries Limited	Access- or transaction-control system
	<u>US3931497</u>	1976-01	Gentile et al.	Docutel Corporation	Automated fuel dispenser
	<u>US3935933</u>	1976-02	Tanaka et al.	Omron Tateisi Electronics Co., Ltd.	Automatic article vending machine
	<u>US4068213</u>	1978-01	Nakamura et al.	NCR Corporation	Checkout system
	<u>US4073368</u>	1978-02	Mustapick		Automated merchandising system
	<u>US4114027</u>	1978-09	Slater et al.	The Mosler Safe Company	On-line/off-line automated system
	<u>US4169521</u>	1978-09	Vayda, Jr.		Single-stop shopping facility
	<u>US4197986</u>	1980-04	Nagata	Omron Tateisi Electronics Co.	Money transaction system
	<u>US4247759</u>	1981-01	Yuris et al.	Cubic Western Data	Self-service passenger ticket system
	<u>US4300040</u>	1981-11	Gould et al.	Video Corporation of America	Ordering terminal
	<u>US4321672</u>	1982-03	Braun et al.		Financial data processing system
	<u>US4361754</u>	1982-11	Hoskinson et al.	The Wurlitzer Company	Record operated control system for a vending machine
	<u>US4373134</u>	1983-02	Grace et al.		Magnetic card vote casting system
	<u>US4417136</u>	1983-11	Rushby et al.	NCR Canada Ltd - NCR Canada Ltee	Method and apparatus for improving bank operation productivity
	<u>US4423313</u>	1983-12	Tanigaki	Omron Tateisi Electronics Co.	Transaction processing system
	<u>US4423316</u>	1983-12	Sano et al.	Omron Tateisi Electronics Co.	Automatic banking system
	<u>US4438366</u>	1984-03	Uchida	Hitachi, Ltd.	Cathode-ray tube driving apparatus

	US4449186	1984-05	Kelly et al.	Cubic Western Data	Touch panel passenger seat ticketing system
	US4553222	1985-11	Kurland et al.		Integrated interactive restaurant communication system for and entertainment process
	US4562340	1985-12	Tateisi et al.	Omron Tateisi Electronics Co.	Terminal device for making payments for credit transa
	US4569421	1986-02	Sandstedt		Restaurant or retail vendin
	US4582172	1986-04	Takeuchi et al.	Kabushi Kaisha San Atomu	Method and apparatus for automatically giving and re orders and for making calc thereof in restaurants and
* some details unavailable					

Foreign
References:

None



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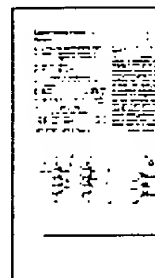
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Title: **US4073368: Automated merchandising system**
 Country: **US** United States of America
 Inventor: **Mustapick, Andrew J.**; Northport, NY 11768
 Assignee: **None**
 Published / Filed: **Feb. 14, 1978 / July 12, 1976**
 Application Number: **US1976000704449**
 IPC Code: **E04H 3/04;**
 U.S. Class: **Current: 186/053; 348/061; 725/151;**
Original: 186/001.C; 358/086; 358/093;
 Field of Search: **186/1 R,1 C 358/86 R,93**
 Priority Number: **Jan. 20, 1975 US1975000542225**

Abstract: A plurality of communication stanchions are arranged in a parking lot, spaced one from the other, so that each merchandise customer may park their automobile adjacent a stanchion close enough to be able to use communication equipment carried by the stanchion without leaving the automobile. The communication equipment interconnects with a remote warehouse type market and includes a video receiver which displays for the customer the merchandise available for sale. Keyboard and voice units also interconnected with the warehouse, are provided at the communication stanchion for customer use to transmit to the warehouse a merchandise order. Within the warehouse goods are stored for ready access, either by order clerks, or automatic order picking equipment. The order once picked is tabulated, bagged and forwarded either directly to the stanchion where the customer pays and the order is placed in the customer's automobile or to a central leading area which the customer moves to pay a cashier and have the goods loaded into the automobile.

Attorney, Agent or Firm: **Feldman, Stephen E. ; Feldman, Marvin ;**
 Primary / Assistant Examiners: **Blix, Trygve M.; Eisenzopf, Reinhard J.**
 INPADOC Legal Status: [Show legal status actions](#)



Related Applications:

Application Number	Filed	Patent	Pub. Date	Title
US1975000542225	1975-01-20			

Parent Case:

This is a continuation, of application Ser. No. 542,225; filed January 20, 1975, now abandoned.

Family: None

First Claim: [Show all 8 claims](#)

I claim:

1. An automated merchandising system comprising:

- a goods storage building;
- a plurality of communications stanchions arranged outside of and remote from said goods storage building but electrically and electronically interconnected therewith;
- said communications stanchions being spaced one from the other a distance sufficient to permit an automobile to be parked adjacent thereto;
- a goods ordering unit carried by each of said communications stanchions so as to be electrically and electronically interconnected therewith and through said communications stanchion to said goods storage building wherein said goods ordering units are removable from their respective stanchions and into the automobile parked adjacent thereto while still remaining electrically and electronically interconnected to said goods storage building; and
- each said goods ordering unit being accessible to an occupant of an automobile when parked adjacent said communications stanchion and being provided with video display means operable by the customer to display goods available at said goods storage building and data transmission means to transmit to said goods storage building data indicative of goods which the automobile occupant desires to obtain.

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Buy PDF	Patent	Pub.Date	Inventor	Assignee	Title
	US2463339*	1949-03	Wetzel		
	US3647026	1972-03	Alexander		AUTOMATIC DRIVE-IN STORE

US3741345	1973-06	Saridis	SEMI AUTOMATED RETAIL STO
* some details unavailable			

Foreign
References:

None



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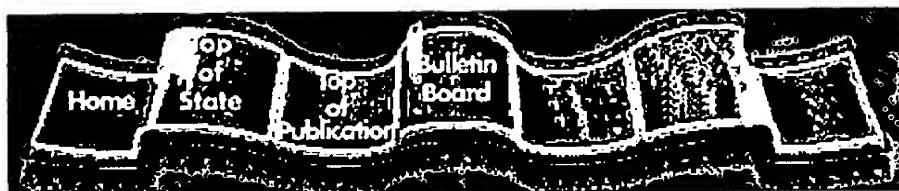
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THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
(Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

For Immediate Release

June 30, 2000

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT SIGNING OF ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES IN GLOBAL
AND NATIONAL COMMERCE ACT

Congress Hall
Independence National Historical Park
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

10:57 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: I would like to begin by acknowledging the presence here of Congressman Joe Hoeffel from Pennsylvania. He represents the district adjoining Philadelphia, and I thank you, Joe. (Applause.) And Martha Akins, the Superintendent of the Independence National Historic Park, where we are -- thank you, Martha. (Applause.)

To all the other Park Service employees -- that's one of the few federal jobs that I haven't held that I'd like to hold. (Laughter.) And I'd also like to say a special word of appreciation to Dave Barram, the Administrator of the General Services Administration that manages our federal buildings and has also played a critical role in putting so much of the federal government on-line. Thank you, Dave. (Applause.) He took a modest pay cut to leave Silicon Valley to work for me several years ago, and I'm very grateful.

Two hundred and thirteen years ago, about 100 feet from where we are now, in a summer as hot as this one, the Founding Fathers drafted the Constitution of the United States. In the very first article of that document, they wrote that, government shall make no laws, "impairing the obligation of contracts." James Madison called the contract clause -- and I quote again -- "a constitutional bulwark in favor of personal security and private rights." He and his fellow framers understood that the right of individuals to enter into commercial contracts was fundamental not just for economic growth, but for the preservation of liberty itself.

Just a few moments ago I had the privilege of signing into law legislation that carries the spirit of the Founders' wisdom into the Information Age. The Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act will open up new frontiers of economic opportunity while protecting the rights of American consumers. The new law will give fresh momentum to what is already the longest economic expansion in our history, an expansion driven largely by the phenomenal growth in information technologies -- particularly the Internet.

Firms across America are moving their supply and sales channels on-line, improving

customer service and reducing costs. The resulting productivity gains are rippling throughout our economy, helping wages to rise, businesses to start, jobs to be created without causing inflation. And individuals are not just buying and selling on-line, they're gaining information that is empowering them as consumers and as citizens.

Perhaps no invention since the railroad has had such potential to expand our opportunities and broaden our horizons -- I would argue, more profound potential. But that potential is now being held back by old laws that were written, ironically, to protect the sanctity of contracts. Laws that require pen and ink signatures on paper contracts for them to be enforceable.

In order to unleash the full potential of the digital economy, Vice President Gore and I unveiled, three years ago, our Framework for Global Electronic Commerce. In that document, we set out the principles we believe should shape the rules governing electronic conflicts. We said that the rules should be simple and nonregulatory, that they should not favor one technology over another, and they should give individuals and organizations maximum freedom to form electronic contracts as they see fit.

I'm grateful that Congress has kept those principles in mind as it drafted the Electronic Signatures Act. Under this landmark legislation -- which I want to point out, passed by overwhelming majorities of both parties in both Houses, and I compliment both the Republicans and the Democrats for their support of this -- on-line contracts will now have the same legal force as equivalent paper contracts. Companies will have the legal certainty they need to invest and expand in electronic commerce. They will be able not only to purchase products and services, but to contract to do so. And they could potentially save billions of dollars by sending and retaining monthly statements and other records in electronic form.

Eventually, vast warehouses of paper will be replaced by servers about the size of VCRs. Customers will soon enjoy a whole new universe of on-line services. With the swipe of a smart card and the click of a mouse, they will be able to finalize mortgages, sign insurance contracts, or open brokerage accounts.

Just as importantly, the law affords consumers who contract on-line the very same kind of protections and records, such as financial disclosures, they currently receive when they sign paper contracts. Consumers will be able to choose whether to do business and receive records on paper or on-line. They will have the power to decide if they want to receive notice and disclosures electronically. It will be the company's responsibility to ensure that the data it sends to a consumer can be read on that consumer's computer -- no more e-mail attachments with gibberish inside.

Finally, government agencies will have the authority to enforce the laws, protect the public interest, and carry out their missions in the electronic world.

For eight years now, I have worked to set forth a new vision of government and politics that marries our most enduring values to the demands of the new Information Age. In many ways, the Electronic Signatures Act exemplifies that vision. It shows what we in Washington can accomplish when we put progress above partisanship, when we reach across party lines to work for the American people and our common future.

I want to congratulate the many organizations and again, the lawmakers in both parties, and the members of our administration who worked so hard to get this bill passed, and offer a special thanks to Vice President Gore who long ago had the vision to understand the potential of this technology, and who has led our administration's efforts to harness that potential to benefit all Americans.

Now, let me see if this works. Now, we have to wait a while while the act comes up and the magic has worked. It's amazing to think that Americans will soon be using cards like this one for everything from hiring a lawyer to closing a mortgage. Just imagine if this had existed 224 years ago, the Founding Fathers wouldn't have had to come all the way to Philadelphia on July 4th for the Declaration of Independence. They could have e-mailed their John Hancocks in.

(The act is signed.) (Applause.)

Well, it works, and it will work for you. And all of you young people will someday look back on this day that you were here and marvel that we thought it was any big deal. (Laughter.) And that will be the ultimate test of success. I wish you well, I hope we've done a good job of preparing your future. Happy 4th of July weekend. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END 11:05 A.M. EDT



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30 June 2000

Transcript: Clinton on Signing Electronic Signatures Act

(Says new law will spur growth of e-commerce) (1460)

President Clinton has signed into law legislation that makes electronic signatures legally binding.

The Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act will spur the growth of the new, Internet-based economy, Clinton said at the signing ceremony in Philadelphia June 30.

"Companies will have the legal certainty they need to invest and expand in electronic commerce. They will be able not only to purchase products and services, but to contract to do so. And they could potentially save billions of dollars by sending and retaining monthly statements and other records in electronic form," Clinton said moments before he signed the bill with a swipe of a magnetic card containing his digital identification.

Previous laws required pen and ink signatures on paper contracts to make them enforceable. The time needed to transmit paper contracts through the mail has slowed the speed of business transactions in the Internet-based economy.

Clinton said electronic signatures will give consumers the same legal protections provided by paper and ink signatures.

"Consumers will be able to choose whether to do business and receive records on paper or on-line. They will have the power to decide if

they want to receive notice and disclosures electronically," Clinton said. "It will be the company's responsibility to ensure that the data it sends to a consumer can be read on that consumer's computer -- no more e-mail attachments with gibberish inside."

Congress passed the electronic signatures legislation with overwhelming majorities.

Following is a transcript of the president's remarks:

(begin transcript)

June 30, 2000

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT SIGNING OF ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES IN GLOBAL
AND NATIONAL COMMERCE ACT

THE WHITE HOUSE

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(end transcript)

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